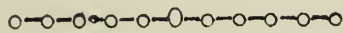


ALSTON-WITH-GARRIGILL

RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR 1964





TO THE
CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
~~ALSTON-WITH-GARRIGILL~~
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

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Mr. Chairman, Mrs. Harrison and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit my report as Medical Officer of Health for the year 1964. I wish to thank the Public Health Inspector for his assistance in preparation of my report.

Yours faithfully,

JOHN R. HASSAN,

Medical Officer of Health.

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REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR
ALSTON-WITH-GARRIGILL RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL
FOR THE YEAR 1964.

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SECTION A

VITAL STATISTICS

Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area

Area...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	36,971 acres
Population	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,060
Number of inhabited houses according to rate book.										
Alston Ward	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	532
Nenthead Ward	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	192
Garrigill Ward	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	129
Total										<u>853</u>
Rateable Value...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	£48,051
Penny Rate Product	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	£180

COMMENT.

The number of the Resident Population is given as the same as last year by the Registrar General but other sources of information indicate a small reduction. The emigration rate of the previous year is halted. However there has been a loss of 200 since the War and a loss of 800 since the peak year 1943 in modern times. This trend must give rise to apprehension and our thoughts and efforts given to combat it. Twenty five years ago there were the following occupations, sheep farming, dairy farming, lead mining, zinc extraction, steel casting, small parts manufacturing, hosiery knitting, laundering, anthracite mining, barytes mining, lime burning and catering. Four of these remain and due to increased mechanisation, agriculture needs many fewer men.

The number of births increased to a figure which is average for the area, the same can be said of the number of deaths when the unbalanced nature of our population age distribution is borne in mind. These vital statistics compare very favourably with 20 years ago in spite of the reduction in the population.

There are many comparisons with the immediate post-war period that give cause for satisfaction now. Not only is the standard of housing good, but about 160 new houses have been built, where 20 years ago there were some 240 closets, none are now known to exist.

There is an extremely high level of health, particularly amongst the younger generation. It is now found necessary for about one fifth of the previous number to have the operation for the removal of tonsils and adenoids.

It is noted that medical inspection of scholars reveals visual defects only as requiring further attention. During the past year no notifiable disease occurred, probably for the first time. The number on the Tuberculosis Register is now in single figures, while since records were kept it has never been below 30, and none of those on the list suffer from actual tuberculosis.

The only problem facing the Council is one of depopulation, which will be met only by the provision of new and various occupations, but before this can be done houses will have to be available to those who would swell the population. There is however still a local waiting list confronting us. The need is immediate and of the present, action must be taken to meet the present situation, and present planning should include a reasonable aspiration of future need and growth.

I should like to thank the Chairman and members of the Committee for their continuing interest and support.

<u>LIVE BIRTHS</u>										<u>1964</u>	
										M	F
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10	23
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	2
										<hr/> 36	

<u>STILL BIRTHS</u>										M	F
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	-
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	-	-
										<hr/>	1

						M	F
Deaths of Infants under 1 week of age						-	-
" " " " 4 weeks " "						-	-
" " " " 1 year " "						-	1
							1

<u>ANNUAL BIRTH RATE per 1,000 estimated population</u>							
For this area	...	...	...	...	...	...	17.4
For Cumberland	...	...	...	...	...	...	18.4
For Rural District of Cumberland					...	...	18.1
For England and Wales		...	...	...	...	...	18.4

									M	F
<u>DEATHS</u>	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	21	14
									<hr/>	
									35	
									<hr/>	

<u>ANNUAL DEATH RATE per 1,000 estimated population</u>							
For this area	...	...	...	...	...	...	17.0
For Cumberland	...	...	...	...	...	...	11.8
For Rural District of Cumberland				...	...	...	12.0
For England and Wales		...	...	...	...	...	11.3

Deaths from Puerperal Causes... .. Nil

S E C T I O N B

(1) PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE AUTHORITY

Medical Officer of Health (Part-time)
John R. Hassan, M.B., Ch.B., D.R.C.O.G.
Cottage Hospital,
ALSTON.

Public Health Inspector,
R.W. Thomas, M.A.P.H.I.
Town Hall,
ALSTON.

(2)

(a) LABORATORY FACILITIES.

The Pathological Laboratory of the Cumberland Infirmary, Carlisle supplies a complete range of service under this heading.

(b) AMBULANCE

I regret to report that the present ambulance is unsatisfactory. It is impossible to have a speedy and comfortable journey. One of these features must be sacrificed to achieve the other.

(c) CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES

Consultant Services are available at Carlisle and Newcastle. Physiotherapy is available on two mornings each week at the Cottage Hospital. Maternity and Child Welfare Clinics are held weekly at the Cottage Hospital provided of course by the Cumberland County Council. The School Dental Clinic is held one day a fortnight at the Cottage Hospital.

The Dental Service (N.H.S.) is provided one day a week by a Private Practitioner.

S E C T I O N C

WATER SUPPLIES

Following instructions laid down in Ministry of Health, Circular, 1/65

(a) The quality of the water supplied through the water mains was satisfactory. The various springs from which the supplies are derived are land springs in carboniferous limestone. The spring at Killhope, Nenthead, has a fairly high iron content which causes slight discolouration under normal circumstances, but the discolouration becomes pronounced when the flow through the mains is interrupted in some way.

During the year the Nenthead system was closely checked and from the point of view of quantity there was a great improvement. Shortages occurred only when the 3" dia. main was snapped, and this defect was quickly found and repaired.

The Eden Water Board is drawing up a scheme to provide a piped supply to the farms and cottages along the South Tyne Valley and it is estimated that this work should be commenced early in 1966, according to weather conditions.

(b) Two Type AHWB reagent feeders are installed at Springfield, Alston, and one at Killhope, Nenthead. Iron in suspension causes difficulty in maintaining the Nenthead machine in working order.

(c) None of the water supplies are liable to plumbo solvency,

(d) Action taken in the event of contamination is covered by (b) above.

(e) No. of dwelling houses supplied	(1) direct to houses	679
	(2) by standpipes	7
No. of population supplied	(1) direct to houses	1,937
	(2) by standpipes	13

SEWERS AND SEWERAGE DISPOSAL.

Three centres of population are served by public sewers. At Alston and Nenthead the works comprise of screens, detritus chambers, settling tanks, rotary filters and humus tanks. Work was commenced this year in renewing several valves etc. Garrigill is served by settling tanks and the effluent disposed of by land irrigation.

REGISTERED COMMON LODGING HOUSES.

There are none in the district.

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

Taking into account that the outside staff of this Council consists of three men and the fact that this is a rural district, a weekly collection of refuse for the three main villages can be regarded as satisfactory. In some remote areas a fortnightly collection is made and in more remote areas a monthly collection. Approximately 90% of the district is served.

My remarks with regard to salvage collection last year still apply, but possibly if we were to combine with other authorities, some form of collection could be undertaken.

SANITARY POSITION OF THE AREA.

Number of Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	619
Nuisances Report	...	...	...	...	...	2
Nuisances abated by Informal Notices	...	...	...	...	...	1
Informal Notices	...	...	...	...	...	2
Statutory Notices	...	...	...	...	...	1
Number of Houses Inspected	...	...	...	...	...	195
Number of Houses Disinfected	...	...	...	...	...	-
New houses erected (Local Authority)	...	...	...	...	...	-
New Houses erected (Privately)	...	...	...	...	...	-
Plans submitted	...	...	...	...	...	23
Plans approved	...	...	...	...	...	22
Number of Sewer connections	...	...	...	...	...	2
Number of Water connections	...	...	...	...	...	2
Houses demolished	...	...	...	...	...	-
Houses closed	...	...	...	...	...	2

FACTORIES.

(i) Inspection for purposes of Provisions as to health (including inspections made by the Sanitary Inspectors).

<u>Premises</u>	No. on Register	No. of Inspections	No. of Written Notices	No. of Occupied Properties
(i) Factories in which Sec. 1, 2, 3, 4, & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authority.	4	1	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Sec. 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	13	13	-	-
(iii) Other premises in which Sec. 7. is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers premises).	-	-	-	-
	17	14	-	-

(ii) Cases in which defects were found ... Nil.

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963.

During the year 30 premises were registered under this Act.

Notification of one Non-Fatal Accident was received during the fourth quarter of the year.

SECTION DHOUSING.

Work was continued on building 12 flatlets and a Home for aged persons at the Maltings, Alston.

POST WAR HOUSING.

Council Houses completed at the end of 1964	...	...	...	141
Privately owned Houses	"	"	"	16

Estimated number of houses unfit for habitation which cannot be made fit at reasonable cost	35
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Number of houses overcrowded	7
Total number of applicants for Council Houses	42

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS.

Number of privately owned houses for which Improvement Grants were sought	...	...	...	5
Number of applicants for Grants approved	...	...	...	5
Number of improvements completed	...	...	...	2
Improvement Grant total	...	...	...	£531

STANDARD GRANTS

Number of Standard Grant applications granted	...	...	6
Number of Standard Grant work completed	...	...	3
Standard grant total	...	...	£345.13.6d.

SECTION EMEATS.Slaughterhouses.

One privately owned slaughterhouse was operated satisfactorily during the year.

The quality of beasts etc. has been very high, and the only meat found to be unfit were a small percentage of offal - livers affected by fluke worm.

There was no evidence of *Cisticercus Bovis*.

The throughput for the slaughterhouse for the year was:-

Cattle 134 Sheep 430

MILK.

Number of retailers 9.

Again attention is drawn to the condition of milk bottles. The public are largely to blame as often there are long delays before the empty bottles are returned to the dairyman.

Also care on all sides should be taken to prevent the chipping of the necks of bottles and chipped bottles should NOT be used.

CATERING ESTABLISHMENTS.

Again the various establishments have been satisfactory. They are as follows:-

	Licensed Hotels	Temperance Hotels	Snack Bar	Fish & Chip Shop	Total
Alston	5	1	2	2	10
Nenthead	1	-	-	-	1
Garrigill	1	-	-	-	1

The total number of licensed premises are as under:-

Alston	...	...	...	8
Nenthead	...	...	...	3
Garrigill	...	...	...	1
				<u>12</u>

Premises registered under Section 16 of the Food & Drugs Act, 1955,

(Making Sausages and Pressed Meates) 2
Premises registered for the sale of ice cream only.. 10

RECORD OF FOOD VOLUNTARILY SURRENDERED DURING 1964.

Cooked Ham	3 tins	26lbs. 1 oz.	Canned Tomatoes	13 tins	21lbs. 14 ozs.
Grapefruit	4 tins	4lbs. 1½ ozs.	Pears	13 tins	19lbs. 6½ ozs.
Peaches	12 tins	19lbs. 5 ozs.	Fruit Salad	2 tins	3lbs. 10 ozs.
Mandarin Oranges	3 tins	2lbs. 1 oz.	Pineapple	4 tins	3lbs. 15 ozs.
Garden Peas	4 tins	3lbs. 14 ozs.	Broad Beans	1 tin	15 ozs.
Syrup	1 tin.	1lb.	Baked Beans	1 tin	1lb.
Orange Juice	1 tin	1lb. 13½ ozs.			

17 small tins of Full Cream Condensed Milk.

4

CAUSE OF DEATH	SEX	TOTAL ALL AGES	UNDER 4 WEEKS	4 WEEKS AND UNDER 1 YEAR	AGE IN YEARS									
					1--	5--	15--	25--	35--	45--	55--	65--	75+	
11. MALIGNANT NEOPLASM, LUNG, BRONCHUS	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	
12. MALIGNANT NEOPLASM, BREAST	M F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	
13. MALIGNANT NEOPLASM, UTERUS	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	
14. OTHER MALIGNANT AND LYMPHATIC NEOPLASMS	M F	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	-	
17. VASCULAR LESIONS OF NERVOUS SYSTEM	M F	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	
18. CORONARY DISEASE, ANGINA	M F	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	3	1	
20. OTHER HEART DISEASE	M F	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	
21. OTHER CIRCULATORY DISEASE	M F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	
23. PNEUMONIA	M F	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	
24. BRONCHITIS	M F	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	
28. NEPHRITIS AND NEPHROSIS	M F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	
31. CONGENITAL MALFORMATIONS	M F	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
32. OTHER DEFINED AND ILL-DEFINED DISEASES	M F	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12	
34. ALL OTHER ACCIDENTS	M F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
<u>TOTAL ALL CAUSES</u>	M F	21 14	-	1	-	-	1	-	1	3	4	5	7 10	

